

[View this email in your browser](#)



# CONNECTICUT WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL REPORT

The latest news and updates in Connecticut agriculture

Brought to you by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture  
Version en español disponible en línea en [CTGrown.gov](http://CTGrown.gov).

## In This Issue

February 4, 2022; Vol. E, No.

[CTG4CTK Grants Awarded](#)

[FMNP Farmer Certification](#)

[COVID-19 Guidance](#)

[Outstanding Young Farmer](#)

[CT Grown Campaign Survey](#)

[Farm Stress Webinar Series](#)

[Farm Transition Grant](#)

[Ag Market Pricing](#)

[Advertisements](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)



Farm Viability Grant is a competitive matching grant program open to municipalities, regional planning organizations, associations of municipalities, and agricultural non-profits. The maximum grant award is \$49,999. Applications are due by 4:00 p.m. on February 14.

Grant guidance and application information available [here](#).



## Announces CT Grown 4 CT Kids Grant Recipients

*\$225,000 Awarded to 13 Public School Districts, Early Childcare Providers, Non-profits, and Small Businesses to Develop Farm-to-School Programs*

Agriculture Commissioner Bryan P. Hurlburt announces that the Connecticut Department of Agriculture has awarded 13 grants from the Connecticut Grown for Connecticut Kids Grant (CTG4CTK Grant), totaling \$225,000. Projects shall develop and enhance farm-to-school programs that will increase the availability of local foods in nutrition programs, allow educators to use hands-on educational techniques to teach students about nutrition and farm-to-school connections, sustain relationships with local farmers, improve the health of children in the state, and enhance the state's economy.

“The enthusiastic response to the Connecticut Grown for Connecticut Kids Grant program reiterates the interest and need for programs such as this to educate children about nutrition while facilitating the connection of where their food comes from,” said Agriculture Commissioner Bryan P. Hurlburt. “We look forward to the outcomes of the awarded projects and the impact it has on the next generation.”

Eligible entities could apply for up to \$24,999 in grant funds; no cash or in-kind match was required. Projects had to fit within four priority categories: Infrastructure, Experiential Learning Opportunities, Farm to School Planning, and Pilot CT Grown Purchasing Programs.

The program received 59 applications requesting over \$962,000 in grant funds. Selection was highly competitive. The application review was conducted by a statutorily authorized advisory committee and Commissioner Hurlburt. The pilot program is funded for two years through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

The fiscal year 2022 Connecticut Grown for Connecticut Kids Grant awardees include:

- Bristol Child Development Center: Little Chefs
- East Hampton Public Schools: Memorial School Garden
- Groton Public Schools: Growing Groton's Farm to School Program
- Hartford Public High School: Hartford Public High School Greenhouse
- Lauren Little Edutainment, Hartford: Traveling School Yard Tour Program
- Meriden Public Schools: Creating Equitable Opportunities Through Farm to School Connection
- Naugatuck School District: #NaugyGrows
- New Britain Public Schools: Smith School Garden Expansion
- Regional YMCA of Western CT: Regional Y Gardening Programs
- Torrington Public Schools: Torrington Produce Pilot
- West Haven Child Development Center: Farm to Table, Expanding Preschool Children's Worldview
- Winchester Public Schools: Winchester School Produce Pilot

Established under P.A. 21-0002, S. 364, Connecticut Grown for Connecticut Kids Grant (CTG4CTK Grant) is administered by Department of Agriculture through a combination of financial and technical assistance to help develop farm-to-school programs that will increase the availability of local foods in child nutrition programs, allow educators to use hands-on educational techniques to teach students about nutrition and farm-to-school connections, sustain relationships with local farmers and producers, enrich the educational experience of students, improve the health of children in the state and enhance the state's economy.



### **FARMERS MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM FARMER CERTIFICATION**

All fruit, vegetable, and honey producers selling at Certified Connecticut Grown Farmers' Markets must be certified with the Connecticut Department of Agriculture's Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP). To be certified, producers must attend a certification meeting.

The certification allows farms to accept the FMNP checks for fresh fruits, vegetables, and honey from WIC clients and income-eligible seniors over the age of 60. Join us to get your certification, learn more about available grant funding for your farm, and accept SNAP to expand your sales.

Below are the **2022** certification meeting dates which will be held virtually as well as in-person.

**Virtual: Tuesday, February 8, 2022, from 3-5:00 p.m.**

**In-person: Friday, February 11, 2022, from 9-11:00 a.m. – Windham County Extension Office**

**Virtual: Wednesday, February 16, 2022, from 6-8:00 p.m.**

**In-person: Friday, February 25, 2022, from 9-11:00 a.m. – Torrington Extension Office**

**In-person: Tuesday, March 1, 2022, from 10 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. – New Haven Extension Office**

**Virtual: Wednesday, March 3, 2022, from 8-10:00 a.m.**

Registration is now open at <https://bit.ly/3DeYRLO>. **Please register at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.**

[Register Here](#)

---

## COVID-19 RESOURCES

- [CT COVID-19 Knowledge-Base](#): COVID-19 resource to answer your questions on self-tests, testing sites, and more.
- [Self-Test Page](#): Information about self-tests.
- [CT COVID-19 Response](#): Current information including data tracker, testing and vaccine sites, reopening guidance and more.

**Agriculture businesses, non-profits, and other organizations should follow the sector rules that apply to them. Private business owners can implement or continue to require social distancing and other measures as deemed necessary.**

Find the most current sector rules guidance at [www.ct.gov/coronavirus](http://www.ct.gov/coronavirus).

The Department of Agriculture has archived information from various sources related to COVID-19, which can be found here:

<https://portal.ct.gov/DOAG/Commissioner/Commissioner/COVID-19-Resources-for-Farmers>.

## REGISTER FOR ON-FARM MOBILE VACCINATION SITE

Farms interested in hosting a mobile vaccination clinic for farm employees are encouraged to fill out the [DPH vans intake form](#).

---

## CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURE IN THE NEWS

[The opposite of junk mail](#), 2/3, World Wildlife Foundation

[Greenskies brings agrivoltaics solar arrays to two Connecticut farms](#), 2/2, Solar Builder

[State urges support of CT farmers to help fill supply chain gaps](#), 1/29, Fairfield Citizen

---



## CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION COUNCIL

### 2022 Outstanding Young Farmer Nominations Requested



#### CONNECTICUT SEEKS OUTSTANDING YOUNG FARMER NOMINATIONS

The Connecticut Agricultural Information Council (CAIC) is seeking nominations for the 2022 Outstanding Young Farmer. Awarded annually during Ag Day at the Capitol, the Connecticut Outstanding Young Farmer Award recognizes the winner's progress in their agricultural career, their soil and water conservation practices, and their contributions to the well-being of the community, the state, and the nation. Nomination applications must be submitted electronically via email by February 25, 2022. Self-nominations are allowed. [Details and application here.](#)

CAIC is also accepting nominations for the Century Farm and Ag Journalism awards. Details on the programs are posted at [www.ctaginfocouncil.org](http://www.ctaginfocouncil.org).

---

#### URBAN FARMERS TOOL SHED WEBINAR

UConn Extension's Solid Ground Farmer Training Program is inviting stakeholders to discuss the opportunity of creating shared farm equipment libraries in up to 3 urban locations in CT. The equipment libraries are meant to support urban farming enterprises and will ideally be hosted and managed by local partners. Stakeholders are welcome at this early stage to share their ideas and questions as this effort gets underway in 2022. Funding for this initiative comes from USDA BFRDP 2020-70017-32733.

Join us for one of two time slots both happening on **February 17**.

Session 1: 12:00-1:00 p.m.

Session 2: 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Register now at [s.uconn.edu/urbantoolshed](https://s.uconn.edu/urbantoolshed)

---



## VIRTUAL COURSE ON LAND ACCESS FROM SNEFCC

The Southern New England Farmers of Color Collaborative (SNEFCC) is now offering their first course on land access for BIPOC farmers in CT, MA and RI. In this course, students will learn about the history of the land and the original people in Southern New England, how we can steward the land in ways that uphold our values, and how to evaluate farmland for farm enterprises. Students will learn about alternative and creative models for gaining access to land that may allow them to start farming soon even if they cannot afford to purchase a farm on their own.

There is a lot to learn over the course of 7 weeks. The class will meet live, online, **every Tuesday from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., starting on February 15 and ending on March 29**. Students will have access to pre-recorded video presentations on these topics so that class time is devoted to discussion and answering their specific questions.

To allow for in-depth discussions with all participants, enrollment is limited. But we encourage everyone who is interested to apply because we plan to offer this course again in the near future. You can apply using this link: <https://airtable.com/shrK7nDwaMiCFriRA>

Please note that the deadline for applications is **February 10**. Because SNEFCC received some additional funding related to COVID relief, we are able to offer students a stipend of \$160 to attend this course. If you have any additional questions, please contact [info@snefcc.org](mailto:info@snefcc.org).



## USDA, CORNELL HOST FIRST NATIONAL HEMP WEBINAR SERIES

Lectures will be given by [various hemp research experts](#) from academia, research laboratories, production facilities, and private industry:

- March 9 – Extraction Chemistry/Facility Design: [Alisia Ratliff](#)
- March 23 – The Endocannabinoid System: [Ethan Russo M.D](#)
- April 6 – Hemp Food Science: [Hunter Friedland](#)
- April 20 – Hemp Diversity/Genetics: [Dr. Daniela Vergara](#)
- May 4 – Economics of Hemp Production: [Dr. Tyler Mark](#)

The webinars will occur every other Wednesday from 2 p.m. – 3 p.m. EST and include an interactive Q&A session. [Registration is required.](#)

---

## 2022 FSMA PRODUCE SAFETY ALLIANCE REMOTE GROWER TRAINING

The deadline for registration for the 2022 FSMA Produce Safety Alliance training is **February 6**. To register for the remote training course please visit [s.uconn.edu/fsmaremotegrower](https://s.uconn.edu/fsmaremotegrower).

The Produce Safety Alliance (PSA) Grower Training Course has been designed to provide a foundation of Good Agricultural Practices knowledge that includes emphasis on co-management of food safety and environmental management goals, while outlining the requirements of the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule. The PSA Grower Training Course is one way to satisfy the FSMA Produce Safety Rule requirement outlined in § 112.22(c) that requires ‘At least one supervisor or responsible party for your farm must have successfully completed food safety training at least equivalent to that received under standardized curriculum recognized as adequate by the Food and Drug Administration.’ This course will be taught remotely on a Zoom platform as per the remote delivery guidelines established by PSA. Course registration fee (includes all course materials and certificate): \$175.

The webinars will be held virtually on the following dates:

**Wednesday, February 23, 2022: 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

**Thursday, February 24, 2022: 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

If you have further questions regarding the course, please contact [indu.upadhyaya@uconn.edu](mailto:indu.upadhyaya@uconn.edu).

---



## CONNECTICUT GROWN PRODUCER SURVEY

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture is seeking producer feedback on the 2021 CT Grown campaign. The short survey will take approximately three minutes to complete. We value and appreciate your input as we work together to strengthen CT Grown.

[Take the survey.](#)

If you are looking for more information on adding events, downloading the new CT Grown logo, adding your farm to the interactive map please visit [www.CTGrown.org](http://www.CTGrown.org).

# Getting to the Root

*Hear how these farmers identified a need, applied a unique approach and continue to innovate in their agricultural enterprises.*

**A Webinar Series featuring short videos & farmer panels exploring the entrepreneurial spirit of new CT farmers**

**REGISTER HERE**

**Niche Livestock Production**  
Thursday Feb 10th 10:30am-noon  
**Video Premier featuring**  
Nick Weinstock, Bott Farm  
**Panelists;**  
Jennie Kapszikiewicz, Stone Hill Farm  
Kristen Marra, Muddy Roots Farm  
Karen Kalenauskas, Kalenauskas Farm  
Dr. Joe Emenheiser, UConn

**Cut-Flower Farming**  
Tuesday Feb 15th 10:30am-noon  
**Video Premier featuring**  
Haley Billipp, Eddy Farm  
**Panelists;**  
Robert Chang, Echo Farm  
Christina Natale, Little Hen Farm  
Kristin Burrello, Muddy Feet Flower Farm

**USDA**

**UConn** | COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, HEALTH AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
EXTENSION

These trainings are supported by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, under award number 2020-70017-32723.

**SOLID GROUND**  
A Program Of UConn Extension



Cornell Cooperative Extension of Broome County invites farms, food-based businesses, and agricultural businesses to join them for a panel discussion on accessing capital and various USDA programs to grow their business.

This panel discussion will take place on **Tuesday, February 22, at 6:30 p.m.** Presenters at this session will include:

- Farm Service Agency
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- USDA Rural Development
- NBT Bank
- Farm Credit East
- Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce/COVID Relief grant

This is a great opportunity to learn about the options for accessing financing, conservation programs, and other resources to grow your farm and/or food-based business!

The cost to attend is \$10/farm and pre-registration is required. Veterans located in NY or NJ may attend for free. Click [here](#) to register.



### SPRING CROP SALES CLOSING

The deadline to insure spring crops in the northeast for the 2022 crop year is March 15, 2022. Insurable spring crops include field and vegetable crops such as corn, soybeans, barley, oats, fresh market sweet corn, cabbage, processing beans, processing sweet corn, dry beans, green peas, fresh market beans, tomatoes, tobacco, and potatoes. Coverage availability varies by county. Visit [CropGrowers.com](https://CropGrowers.com) to view [individual crop fact sheets](#) for more information.

To protect your investment in the 2022 crop, spring crop producers should contact their Crop Growers agent well in advance of the March 15 deadline. Let your agent know of any changes in your entity and they will update you of any changes to the crop insurance policy.

[Learn More](#)

---

## CONNECTICUT FARMERS FACE SUCCESSION PLANNING CHALLENGES HEAD-ON WITH HELP FROM LOCAL GROUPS

As farmers dig into winter and farm planning, they can also get help with succession planning at winter workshops and through individualized coaching. In Connecticut, senior farmers aged 65 or older operate 32% of the state's farms. Of these 1,892 senior farmers, just 7% of them have someone under age 45 managing the farm with them. This farmland will transfer ownership in the next decade in one way or another.

A free live webinar series will help Connecticut's transitioning farmers and junior generation farmers learn the basics of succession planning, how to get started, where to find advisors and additional resources, ask questions of succession planning experts, and get support on this challenging process. All generations, including family and non-family members, who may play a role in the farm's future are encouraged to attend. This four-part live webinar series will meet virtually on Wednesdays beginning January 26 through February from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. each day. Register for the Zoom link.

An in-person Farm Succession School in Vernon will help senior farmers who are ready to dig in. The school helps farmers think through the many aspects of succession planning, clarify vision and goals, and get next steps on paper. There is homework and assistance available between sessions. And sessions include ample time to share and learn from other farmers facing similar questions. Farmers will leave with exercises for visioning the future of the farm, clear next steps, and documents to assemble to provision for a smooth transition. This three-part program will meet in-person: Thursdays February 10, March 3, and March 31 (snow dates Friday of same week) at the Tolland County Agricultural Center, 24 Hyde Avenue, Route 30, Vernon, CT.

Register for the Farm Succession School by January 27 or until the course is filled. For more information or to register, call 603-357-1600 or go to [www.landforgood.org/events](http://www.landforgood.org/events).

---

## AND SOLUTIONS: A WEBINAR SERIES

Join us this season to talk about the different stressors that farmers face in Connecticut and the ways your fellow farmers are managing them. This webinar series is open to all, but all participants will be completely anonymous to other attendees. Feel free to submit questions and thoughts ahead of time to [Rebecca.Toms@UConn.edu](mailto:Rebecca.Toms@UConn.edu)



**You're Not Perfect:  
The Myth of the Perfect Farm  
and Celebrating your Successes**

February 16th, 7PM-8:30 PM  
With: Jen Salinetti, Woven Roots  
Farm, Tyringham, MA

**Farm Talk: Sharing Common  
Stressors Among CT farmers**

March 1 from 10:30AM- 12PM  
A panel discussion with Lauren  
Little, Steve Munno, and  
Andromeda Macri

**What it's Like: What to Expect if  
You Want to See a Therapist**

March 8th, 7PM- 8:30 PM  
A conversation with Alana DiPesa,  
LCSW and Becca Toms

**Register at:**  
[https://newfarms.uconn.edu/  
solidground/](https://newfarms.uconn.edu/solidground/)

Brought to  
you by:



THIS WORK IS SUPPORTED BY THE 2021 SDA FARMER RANCHER STRESS ASSISTANCE GRANT FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

[Register](https://newfarms.uconn.edu/solidground/)

### AGRITOURISM WEBINAR ON BUYING/SELLING LOCAL PRODUCTS

A free webinar, "Innovative Ways to Sell Agricultural Products Direct to Consumers," will be offered in both English and French on February 15. While geared to agritourism operators and others working with and studying local food systems, anyone is welcome to participate.

The first hour (11 a.m.-12 p.m.) of this webinar will be conducted in English and the second in French (12-1 p.m.). **Advance registration is required at <http://go.uvm.edu/agtourism-gatherings>.** Please contact Becky Bartlett at (802) 257-7967, ext. 301, if requiring a disability-related accommodation to participate.

Future webinars topics include Culinary Innovation on the Farm (March 1), Agritourism and Wellness (April 5), and Agritourism Networking Session (May 10). All webinars are recorded and can be viewed at [www.agritourismworkshop.com/gatherings-past](http://www.agritourismworkshop.com/gatherings-past).



## HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA CONFIRMED IN WILD BIRDS

USDA APHIS has confirmed highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in wild birds located in NC and SC. Anyone involved with poultry – commercial or backyard flocks alike – should review their biosecurity plan and enhance their biosecurity practices to assure the health of their birds.

Avian influenza (AI) is caused by an influenza type A virus which can infect poultry (such as chickens, turkeys, pheasants, quail, domestic ducks, geese, and guinea fowl) and is carried by free flying waterfowl.

As part of our efforts to prevent the introduction of Avian Influenza into Connecticut poultry, the department conducts surveillance testing of birds throughout the state. Commercial and non-commercial flock owners are participating in our surveillance program. We have partnered with the Connecticut Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory at the University of Connecticut to do low or no cost testing of birds for the Avian Influenza virus. We also have strict importation restrictions to prevent the spread of the virus in our state.

Bird owners need to be aware and report anything out of the ordinary. Anyone who may suspect a poultry on their farm may have died from unknown causes should call the State Veterinarian at 860-713-2505 or email [ctstate.vet@ct.gov](mailto:ctstate.vet@ct.gov). Signs of Avian Influenza include depression, decreased feed and water consumption, decreased egg production, soft or misshapen eggs, and respiratory signs (coughing and sneezing). You can also find out more by visiting the [Connecticut Department of Public Health's pandemic flu webpage](#) or visit the [USDA's Bird Flu website](#).

## NOMINATIONS DEADLINE EXTENDED FOR FARM CREDIT EAST'S

Last fall, Farm Credit East announced the opening of nominations for the Lipinski Rural Initiatives Award, which aims to recognize innovative and transformational efforts to revitalize Northeast rural communities. The nomination deadline for this award has been extended to **February 18, 2022**.

The Lipinski Rural Initiatives Award recognizes programs, projects, individuals, businesses, organizations, and/or institutions that create jobs in rural areas of the Northeast; contribute to the quality of life in rural communities; or enhance rural infrastructure, such as community facilities and broadband necessary for strong rural economies.

For more information follow the link below.

[Visit Farm Credit East](#)

---

### 2022 FARM TRANSITION GRANT AVAILABLE

The 2022 Farm Transition Grant (FTG) is now available at [www.CTGrown.gov/grants](http://www.CTGrown.gov/grants). **Applications will be accepted until March 8, 2022, at 4:00 p.m.**

The 2022 program will again provide matching funds to Connecticut farmers and agricultural cooperatives for the diversification of existing farm operations, transitioning to value-added agricultural production and sales, and other venues in which a majority of products sold are grown in the state.

Grant guidelines and forms can be found at [www.CTGrown.gov/grants](http://www.CTGrown.gov/grants). Additional detail on match requirements and eligible expenses can be found in the guidance. All applications will be submitted electronically via the new [DoAg Grants Portal](#). Questions regarding the Farm Transition Grant can be directed to Alison Grabarz at [Alison.Grabarz@ct.gov](mailto:Alison.Grabarz@ct.gov).

A virtual workshop to assist interested applicants in learning about the structure of the grant and application process will occur on Wednesday, February 9, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. via a Webex call. [Please click here to register for the webinar](#). The presentation will be recorded and posted to the agency website if you are unable to attend the live event.

---

NORTHEAST

DAIRY BUSINESS  
INNOVATION CENTER

NORTHEAST DAIRY BUSINESS INNOVATION CENTER INVESTS IN



The Northeast Dairy Business Innovation Center (NE-DBIC) invests in projects that advance the regional dairy industry. A range of NE-DBIC funding opportunities totaling approximately \$3 million will be available for farmers, processors, and industry partners in 2022:

- **February** – Multi-Business Dairy Agritourism Grant: Funding for projects that elevate multiple dairy businesses through activities that engage consumers and promote regionally produced dairy products.
- **February** – Grazing, Forage, & Alternative Management Cohort Technical Assistance Contract: Contracts for service providers to offer technical assistance to cohorts of farmers in grazing, forage production, or alternative farm management strategies.
- **April** – Dairy Marketing & Branding Services Grant: Funding for value-added dairy processors to access professional services to implement marketing tactics, brand improvements, and overall strategy.
- **June** – Dairy Processor Innovation Grant: Funding for dairy processors to make key developments in operations, products, marketing, and other strategies to position their businesses for long-term success.
- **October** – Dairy Farm Innovation Grant: Funding for dairy farms to take a holistic approach to implementing community- and climate-forward dairy production and business strategies.

For more information about the projects follow the link below.

[Learn More](#)



**RESPONDING TO CHANGE,  
PIVOTING FOR PROFITABILITY**

Take charge of your business. Respond to disruption.  
Maintain financial security.

Mondays: Jan. 31 - Feb. 28  
10am-12:30pm

Wednesdays: Jan. 12-26 & Feb. 9  
3:30pm-6:00pm

**carrot**  
PROJECT

## NRCS ANNOUNCES URBAN AGRICULTURE INITIATIVE IN CONNECTICUT

Thomas L. Morgart, State Conservationist for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, has announced the agency is rolling out its Urban Agriculture Initiative in Connecticut and **will be accepting applications for FY2022 funding through March 18, 2022.**

Urban agriculture pioneers are taking action in their communities growing not only fresh, healthy produce, but increasing opportunity and knowledge and improving the beauty of their neighborhoods. Through this initiative, NRCS will help urban farmers care for the natural resources on their land – soil, water, air, plants, and animals by addressing soil health, irrigation and water conservation, weeds and pests, and high tunnels.

[Learn More](#)

## ADD YOUR BUSINESS TO CT GROWN MAP

The Department of Agriculture, in coordination with CT NOFA, offers a variety of online listings on the [CT Grown Map](#) page. All agricultural businesses, farm stands, and farmers' markets are welcome to apply. There is no fee to participate and applications are accepted year round. To apply to be listed, visit the [CT Grown Map Google Form](#).

## Ag Market Pricing

[Middlesex Livestock Auction - CT](#)  
Prices provided on January 24, 2022

[New Holland Dairy Auction - New Holland, PA](#)

[CT Farmers' Market Prices](#)  
Prices provided on October 22, 2021

[New Holland, PA Hay Report](#)

[Northeast Regional Eggs](#)

[USDA Mexico Canada Weekly Update](#)

[New England Shell Eggs](#)

[Wholesale Fruits & Vegetables - Boston](#)

[Pennsylvania Weekly Cattle Auction Summary](#)

[Wholesale Ornamental Flowers - Boston](#)

[Pennsylvania Livestock Auction - Eighty Four, PA](#)

## Advertisements

### For Sale

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheep breeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or [www.bludon.com](http://www.bludon.com)

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or [www.bludon.com](http://www.bludon.com)

3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. [Sonpal's Power Fence](#) 860-491-2290.

Farm Bureau members may qualify for discounts. Cell: 860-377-8947. [lblackmer@caluoriinsurance.com](mailto:lblackmer@caluoriinsurance.com) Appointments available any time.

---

50-R. The SIG Insurance Agencies offer a wide range of carriers, can save you up to 23% on your farm insurance and provide better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call us for all your insurance needs with locations in CT, RI, NY and NH. Contact our AG department at 866-346-3744, option 4.

---

54-R. Transplanters, vacuum seeders, fertilizer applicators, garlic and potato planters and harvesters. High quality Italian-made precision equipment for the vegetable, tobacco, hemp, fruit, and floral markets. Call or email us today for details. Griffin Farm Equipment, LLC. 860-508-2426, [Griffinfarm@aol.com](mailto:Griffinfarm@aol.com); [www.griffinfarmtools.com](http://www.griffinfarmtools.com)

---

55-R. 250 Bales clean golden yellow rye straw, cut 6/1, large bales. 203-506-6318.

---

22-1. Honeybees: 5-frame Deep nucs only, available first week May. Jones Apiaries, LLC, 860-677-9391.

---

22-3. SnowBlower – 48" PTO. Like new only used twice \$3,095 new. Asking \$2,500 best offer. 860-604-3452

---

### Wanted

---

42-R. EZTRAIL kicker bale wagons, any condition. Cash paid. Call or text George, 860-918-5442.

---

### Job Opportunities

---

The Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture at the University of Connecticut is currently searching for a new research farm manager. Minimum qualifications are a Bachelor's degree and at least six years of relevant experience, including supervisory experience. For more information and list of qualifications, please review the job description here: <https://jobs.hr.uconn.edu/cw/en-us/job/496026>

---

UConn Extension at the College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources is looking to hire a Project Co-Coordinator to assist with its training program and activities for new farmers (Solid Ground Farmer Training Program). The position begins in March and is year-round. Deadline to apply is February 11, 2022. [Click here for more information on the position.](#)

---

CitySeed is expanding and seeking a part-time Development Associate to join the team. [Learn more.](#)

---

Brass City Harvest in Waterbury, CT is seeking a culinary kitchen leader. To learn more about the position, click [here](#).

---

**Interested in Advertising?** Click [here](#) for details on rates and submission.

---

**SOLID GROUND**  
A Program Of UConn Extension

## AGROECOCLOGY SERIES

### ON-FARM COMPOSTING

**TUESDAY JANUARY 25TH, 2022**  
6:30-8PM ON ZOOM [REGISTER HERE](#)  
PRESENTERS: YOKO TAKEMURA - ALEX CARPENTER  
ASSAWAGA FARM

Building biologically active compost on small farms. Yoko and Alex will share their composting system, which uses very basic tools with a low starting cost. This method produces high quality compost that is used in small amounts for ongoing inoculation of the soil rather than to boost OM% or add significant amounts of nutrients. It is also excellent material to make compost extracts, teas and/or feeding worm bins.

### NO-TILL FIELD DAY

**SATURDAY MARCH 26TH, 2022**  
[REGISTER HERE](#) 100-4:00PM  
TOBACCO ROAD FARM - LEBANON, CT  
PRESENTER: BRYAN O'HARA  
AUTHOR: NO-TILL INTENSIVE VEGETABLE CULTURE

Bryan will provide mountains of details on agricultural techniques and will also demonstrate specific equipment adopted for no-till operations. These specialized tools will be absolutely game changing for saving on labor and maximizing efficiencies on your farm.

### ECOLOGICAL GROWING

**SATURDAY APRIL 2ND, 2022**  
100-3:00PM [REGISTER HERE](#)  
HIGH HILL ORCHARD - MERIDEN, CT  
PRESENTER: WAYNE YOUNG

Explore how ecological growing can be implemented to support reduced or no pesticides use operations. Learn how building soil health leverages other natural systems in order to manage pests and environmental challenges.

These trainings are supported by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, under award number 2021-70017-0275.

USDA UCONN COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, HEALTH AND NATURAL RESOURCES

## 2022 Tri-State SARE Project Webinar Series Improving Pasture Management for Sustainable Livestock Production



**WEBINAR 1**  
Assessing soil health:  
What is the status of my soil health?  
Tuesday, February 15  
Speaker: Kirsten Kurtz (Cornell Soil Health Lab)

**WEBINAR 2**  
The value of soil health:  
soil, plant, and animal interactions  
Tuesday, March 22  
Speakers: Sam Corcoran (UMass Extension)  
Joe Emenheiser (UConn Extension)

**WEBINAR 3**  
Creating meaningful soil health change:  
What can I do to make positive changes to my soil health?  
Tuesday, April 19  
Speakers: Kaitlin Farbotnik (NJ NRCS)  
Matthew Denton (Soil Health Division, NRCS)

All webinars will be held from 10 am to 12 noon

Webinars are open to service providers and farmers and will be comprised of time for instruction in addition to interactive breakout sessions. Partaking in all webinars is encouraged, but not required. For more information, visit <https://livestock.extension.uconn.edu/> or contact Rachel Bispuda, Project Director at [rachel.bispuda@uconn.edu](mailto:rachel.bispuda@uconn.edu)

REGISTER HERE - [s.uconn.edu/regsarespring22](https://s.uconn.edu/regsarespring22)



## Advancing 4-H Youth Careers in Food and Agriculture via Biotechnology & STEM



Calling Youth Ages 14-18:

- Are you interested in learning biotechnology?
- Do you want to explore biotechnology as a career?

Join our new 4-H clubs focused on agriculture, food, biotechnology, and STEM careers. Youth ages 14-18 can:

- Join a cohort and help us build online games (participate in a design jam with New Mexico State University and provide game feedback)
- Visit agriculture, food, and biotechnology companies in the state (in-person field trips!)
- Explore careers in food, agriculture, biotechnology, and STEM

Learn more: [s.uconn.edu/biotech](https://s.uconn.edu/biotech)

### UConn 4-H

UConn 4-H is the youth development program of Extension in UConn's College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources. 4-H is a community of over six million young people across the U.S. who are learning Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM), leadership, citizenship and life skills through their 4-H project work.



UConn COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, HEALTH AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
EXTENSION

## Benchmarking for Farm Business Success!

Please join UConn Extension for this instructive webinar on Thursday, March 3 at 12 p.m.

Register @ [s.uconn.edu/benchmarking](https://s.uconn.edu/benchmarking)

Chris Loughton, Director of Knowledge Exchange at Farm Credit East, will discuss business benchmarking and its potential value for your agricultural enterprise. Chris will cover a number of topics related to benchmarking, including:

- What is "benchmarking" anyway?
- Why should I use benchmarks in my farm management?
- How can they help me improve my profitability?
- Where can I find benchmark data? And How can I use it?
- What should I consider next?

This webinar is recommended for any agricultural managers who wish to take their businesses to the next level of success. Regardless of size, how long you've been in business or whether you're happy with your current profit levels or not, benchmarking can help. Tune in to find out how.

This webinar is free and open to all. For those who cannot attend live, it will be recorded and posted at <https://cfarmrisk.extension.uconn.edu> following the session.

UConn COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, HEALTH AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
EXTENSION & PLANT SCIENCE AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

USDA United States Department of Agriculture  
Risk Management Agency

This material is funded in partnership by USDA, Risk Management Agency, award #RMA21CPT0011598



Facebook



Instagram



Pinterest



Website

Copyright © 2022 Connecticut Department of Agriculture, All rights reserved.

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).